

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action, Claims 1 and 4 are amended. Claims 1-6 remain in the Application. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

I. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 1 (presumably, Claims 1 and 4) is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 2, 3, 5 and 6 are rejected as being indefinite for being dependent upon an indefinite base claim. Applicants amend Claims 1 and 4 to remove the reference to “conventional method.” Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

II. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

A. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *An Efficient Transcoding Algorithm for G.723.1 and G.729A Speech Coders* by Yoon et al. (“Yoon”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,829,579 issued to Jabri et al. (“Jabri”)

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the relied upon references must teach or suggest every limitation of the claim such that the invention as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one skilled in the art. Claim 1 recites a speech transcoding apparatus, including the elements of:

“a linear interpolating portion, which linearly interpolates a closed-loop pitch delay decoded by a selected mode vocoder (SMV) speech decoder to make the closed-loop pitch delay fit in a search section for open-loop pitch delays of G.723.1 speech encoder, to thereby obtain a changed closed-loop pitch delay of the SMV decoder

....

a pitch delay determining portion, which,determines the changed closed-loop pitch delay of the SMV speech decoder to be an open-loop pitch delay of the G.723.1 speech encoder; and

a pitch delay detecting portion, which detects a closed-loop pitch delay of the G.723.1 speech encoder based on the determined open-loop pitch delay of the G.723.1 speech encoder.”

Applicants submit that none of the cited references teach or suggest the recited transcoding between G.723.1 and the SMV. The Examiner recognizes that Yoon does not disclose each of the recited elements, but relies on Jabri to supply the missing elements.

Specifically, Jabri is relied on for disclosing the use of linear interpolation for the conversion between different encoding standards. For example, in FIG. 17, Jabri discloses converting GSM-AMR frames (an ITU standard) into G.723.1 frames (an ETSI standard). Jabri indicates that the standards of most interest are the ITU or the ETSI standards (col. 6, lines 24-28). The SMV is neither an ITU nor an ETSI standard. Rather, the SMV is a TIA standard (Jabri, col. 6, lines 38-39). Different standards use different encoding techniques and result in different pitch delays. There is no indication in Jabri that the same or a similar technique can be applied to the SMV. Thus, Yoon in view of Jabri does not teach or suggest each of the elements of Claim 1.

Analogous discussions apply to independent Claim 4. For at least the foregoing reasons, Claims 1 and 4, as well as their respective dependent claims (namely, Claims 3 and 6), are non-obvious over the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1, 3, 4 and 6 are respectfully requested.

B. Claims 2 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over PCT Application No. WO 00/25298 by Yoon et al. (“YoonWO”) in view of Jabri, as applied to Claims 1 and 4, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,734,789 issued to Swaminathan et al. (“Swaminathan”)

YoonWO is relied on for disclosing the extraction of a pitch delay every 30 ms, which corresponds to one frame of G723.1. Swaminathan is relied on for disclosing the use of two pitch delays per frame. However, these cited references do not teach or suggest the transcoding between G.723.1 and the SMV, as recited in independent Claims 1 and 4.

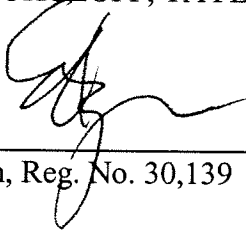
Claims 2 and 5 depend from Claims 1 and 4, respectively, and incorporate the limitations thereof. Thus, for at least the reasons mentioned above in regard to Claims 1 and 4, these dependent claims are non-obvious over YoonWO in view of Jabri and further in view of Swaminathan. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 2 and 5 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP



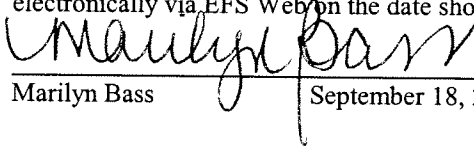
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Eric S. Hyman, Reg. No. 30,139

1279 Oakmead Parkway
Sunnyvale, CA 94085-4040
(310) 207-3800

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Marilyn Bass

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